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Head-On Clash Seems Inevitable**Heat's On State Department
In Otepka Case**

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The senate internal security subcommittee has pried open a real can of worms in its investigation of the State Department's move to discredit and oust Otto Otepka, 48, chief of the evaluation division in the department's Office of Security.

In digging into the Otepka case, the Senate probers have uncovered a backstage effort within the State Department to clear the way for a number of former security risks, including Alger Hiss, to worm their way back onto the government's payroll, as either employees or consultants.

According to sworn testimony before the subcommittee, one of the central figures in this maneuvering is Harlan Cleveland, assistant secretary of state for international affairs.

Cleveland touched off the bitter security row within the department by appointing a number of persons with questionable security backgrounds to an advisory committee to

study the staffing of Americans on international organizations.

According to the testimony, Cleveland also made inquiries as to whether it would be possible to bring Hiss, a former State Department official convicted of perjury to conceal espionage, back into the department.

OTEPKA, one of the department's outstanding security officers, was so shocked over Cleveland's activities that he sent a series of blistering reports to his superiors, including one that was routed through channels to McGeorge Bundy, the President's chief White House adviser on foreign policy.

One of these reports included a detailed "box score" of persons with questionable security background that Cleveland had either brought into the department or was in the process of trying to obtain job clearance for.

When the State Department's daisy chain tipped off Cleveland that he was being attacked, he retaliated swiftly by having John F. Reilly, deputy assistant secretary for security, place Otepka under surveillance. This was quietly arranged through the office of Attorney General Robert Kennedy, a personal friend of Reilly.

With quiet but ruthless efficiency, Otepka was then removed from security operations. His phone was bugged and he was placed under close observation after it was learned that Senate investigators had questioned him, under subpoena, about security risks in the department.

Charges of "misconduct," involving the alleged turning over of secrets to the

Senate subcommittee, were filed against Otepka on Sept. 23 by John Ordway, chief of the personnel operations division.

ACCORDING to the State Department's own confidential report, most of the evidence upon which the "charges" are based came from Reilly's surreptitious examination of Otepka's classified "trash bag," in which he placed security material and other papers for destruction.

According to the findings in this State Department investigative report, evidence was found that Otepka had furnished "A copy of classified memorandum concerning the processing of appointments of the advisory committee on international organizations staffing to Mr. J. G. Sourwine, staff director of the Senate subcommittee for internal security. This memorandum concerns the loyalty of employees or prospective employees of the department within the meaning of the Presidential directive of March 13, 1948."

The report also charged that Otepka was responsible for the declassification of a document containing classified information addressed to McGeorge Bundy, the White House, and signed by William H. Brubeck, special assistant secretary and executive secretary of the department. This document contained information about security risks within the department.

SO SERIOUS were Otepka's revelations to the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee that Secretary Rusk and a score of other State Department officials were summoned to testify before Rusk, pleading that he was too busy with negotiations with Russia, was succeeded in

delaying his appearance.

While the senators managed to grill Reilly and two of his aides, all other State Department officials have been forbidden to appear before the subcommittee without advance approval from Secretary Rusk.

This gag-order has now set the stage for the bitterest head-on clash between the State Department and a Senate committee since the days of the late Senator Joseph McCarthy.

While the Senate probers headed by Senator James O. Eastland, (D., Miss.) chairman, and Senator Thomas Dodd (D., Conn.) don't have the reckless zeal of McCarthy, they do have a courageous witness who can tell the story from the inside.

Otepka, a civil service and State Department officer for more than 20 years, has one of the most outstanding records in his field of work in the government. He was responsible for sending foreign service officer Irving C. Scarbeck to jail for passing U.S. secrets to the Soviets, and for investigating William Wieland in connection with the State Department's Cuban policy. In all his investigations, the records show that he has bent over backwards in protecting the rights of individuals under his surveillance. The Senate subcommittee now plans to give Otepka the same protection.